

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated August 11, 2005, the Examiner noted that the listing for United States Patent Application Publication 2001/0010831 on Form 1449 that accompanied the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 6, 2004 did not include the inventor and the filing date. The Examiner therefore stated that document has been placed in the file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicants are satisfied that the Examiner did not, and could not, completely ignore this document, and that if the Examiner considered any of the contents thereof to conflict with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, the Examiner would not have indicated that subject matter as being allowable. Since re-submitting this reference at this time would require payment of a fee, Applicants are satisfied to have this reference placed in the application file.

A typographical error in the specification was noted, which has been corrected.

Claims 3, 4, 8, and 20 were stated to contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The remaining claims were rejected based on the teachings of the prior art.

By the present Amendment, the subject matter of claim 3 has been embodied in independent claim 1, and claim 3 accordingly has been cancelled. Claims 4 and 8 have been rewritten in independent form.

The subject matter of claim 20 has been embodied in claim 17, and claim 20 has been cancelled, as well as claim 19 since claim 19 would be superfluous in view of the inclusion of the subject matter of claim 20 in claim 17. The dependency of claim 21 has been amended in view of the cancellation of claim 19.

In view of the indicated allowability of the subject matter of claims 3, 4, 8 and 20 all claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

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